

Think Like a Five Year Old

Part One:
A Look at How
We Had It, Why
We've Lost it,
and How to
Reclaim Our
God-Given
Creativity

Reclaim Your Wonder

Creator or critic

The Wright Brothers.

"The Wrights have flown or they have not flown. They possess a machine or they do not possess one. They are in fact either fliers or liars. It is difficult to fly. It is easy to say, "We have flown." - The Paris Herald, 1906

Being a critic is easier.

Let's relearn how to create.

Creativity is...

1) Creativity ≠ arts.

2) ...tricky?

3) ...trendy?

A recent study found no difference in the creative output between people characterized as left-brained vs. right-brained. Saying creativity is for artists is like saying all two legged people are fast.

4) Ken Robinson

5) Austin Wilson

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Creative Genius

Space and Land.

You were once a creative genius.

The First Creative Process

Genesis 1: A creating God.

"Since everyone is made in the image of God, everyone is creative."

Do we really believe this?

Genesis 2: A creative project.

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Creators to Consumers

Famous garages.

Psalm 59

"Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city. They wander about for food and growl if they do not get their fill."

- Psalm 59:14-15

The fourth grade slump.

The three lies.

The Lie of Lowered Expectations

Jesus responds, "Jesus replied, "It's written, People won't live only by bread." -

- Luke 4:4

The Lie of Self-Glory

Jesus answered, "It's written, you will worship the Lord your God and serve only him."

- Luke 4:8

The Lie of Control

Jesus answered, "It's been said, Don't test the Lord your God."

- Luke 4:12

The result? Self-inhibition and pursuit of leisure.

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A New Creation

If we quit making, we quit living.

Everyone has a genius.

God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives.

- Eph 2:10

The reason we struggle to be more creative.

Christ is the image of God.

- 2 Cor 4:4

Reclaiming creative wonder.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

- 2 Cor 5:17

I assure you that if you don't turn your lives around and become like this little child, you will definitely not enter the kingdom of heaven.

- Matthew 18:3

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Part Two:
A Step-By-Step
Guide For
Learning The
Spiritual
Discipline of
Creativity

How to Unleash Your Creative Genius

The Story of Thomas Bramwell

“For three years, you squeezed grapes; you squeezed the family nearly out of the house; you squeezed yourself nearly out of money...”

- young Charles to his father

Creativity = Ideas

The myth of the right brained thinker.

A growth mindset.

The Creative Process in a Nutshell

Ideas —> Waiting —> Connection.

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Learning to Capture Ideas

One: Ideas.

The Motherlode Myth

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

The Tools

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6)

Capture Everything

Two: Waiting.

Convergent vs Divergent

Resist the urge

There's this activation energy you have to get over, and if this energy is very small, if you say I'm not asking you to invest this month, but just a couple of days so we can try something to see how it feels, you have a very different ability to do that experimentation.

- Sam Schillace

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Three: Connections.

On a different day....

Trust the process.

3 reasons we play it safe

- 1) outdated info
- 2) job security
- 3) Prospect Theory

A Creative Idea, Graphed.

One: inspiration

Two: the pit

Three: the hill of growth

Four: the plateau of "finished"

Five: The Long Tail

Of every 7 new product/service projects, about 4 enter development, 1.5 are launched, and only 1 succeeds.

- Innovation expert Robert Cooper

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What to do When Your Best Gets Rejected

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

QNA

This remarkable book is for all of us who long to recapture the wondrous creativity we once took for granted. Len Wilson draws from inspiring stories of real people who fought the battle for divergent thinking and practiced the disciplines required to innovate. I highly recommend this practical and inspiring work, and plan to give it to my artistic daughters.

- Nancy Beach, Leadership Coach and Author

Get the book Think Like a Five Year Old at amazon.com or your favorite retailer.

Visit lenwilson.us for dozens of additional posts on the creative process.